

2025/2026 Special Circumstance Checklist

Use this checklist to determine which Special Circumstance applies to your situation and provide the required documentation. All required documents must be submitted together to avoid delays in processing. Please allow 10–14 business days for review after submission. Additional documentation may be requested, if needed. Please ensure all supporting documents and statements are physically signed and dated. All communications regarding your request, including approvals, denials, or requests for additional information, will be sent to your CGCC student email.

Note:

- Submitting a Special Circumstance Request does not guarantee a change to your financial aid eligibility. All requests are reviewed in accordance with federal regulations and college policies.
- The information you submit must match your FAFSA dependency status:
 - **Dependent Student:** Submit information for you and your parent(s).
 - Independent Student Unmarried: Submit your information only.
 - Independent Student Married: Submit information for you and your spouse.

Special Circumstance	Situation	Supporting Documents
Loss of Employment or reduction of work hours	Income is less or will be less than the income earned in 2023.	□ 2 of your most recent pay stubs □ Separation documentation from employer □ Unemployment benefit documentation □ Federal Tax forms □ 1099 □ 1040 □ w-2
Loss of Benefits (e.g. Alimony, Child Support, Worker's Comp, etc.)	Benefits received in 2023 and/or 2024 have been ceased or reduced	□ Documentation showing loss of funds □ Federal Tax Forms □ 1099 □ 1040 □ w-2
Change in Family Structure (e.g. Divorce, Separation, or Widowed)	Your parent (or your spouse) divorced, separated, or died after submitting the 2025/2026 FAFSA.	□ Divorce decree □ Legal Separation agreement and/or proof of separate addresses □ Copy of Death Certificate □ Federal Tax Forms □ 1099 □ 1040 □ w-2
High Medical Expense Not Covered by Insurance	Medical expenses that have been officially paid in 2024 or 2025, exceeded 10% of the total income earned in 2023	□ Receipt or Statement with proof of payment □ Documentation regarding the medical condition, treatment, and cost for expenses not covered by insurance □ Federal Tax Forms □ 1099 □ 1040 □ w-2